

State of North Carolina Office of the Governor

For Release: **IMMEDIATE**Date: Nov. 2, 2006

Contact: Renee Hoffman
Phone: 919/733-5612

GOV. EASLEY ANNOUNCES HALLOWEEN 'BOOZE IT & LOSE IT' YIELDS 729 DWI ARRESTS DURING STATEWIDE CAMPAIGN

RALEIGH — Gov. Mike Easley announced today that state and local law enforcement officers cited 729 motorists for driving while impaired during a Halloween "Booze It & Lose It" campaign, which ran Oct. 27-31. A total of 18,700 traffic and criminal citations were issued statewide.

"I commend our state and local law enforcement officers for their continued efforts in keeping motorists safe," said Easley. "Their increased visibility over the past week reinforces the message that drinking and driving is not acceptable in North Carolina."

During the Governor's Highway Safety Program (GHSP) campaign, officers statewide conducted more than 1,864 sobriety checkpoints and dedicated patrols. Counties with the highest number of DWI citations include Pitt (81), Mecklenburg (68) and Wake (53).

Officers also issued 1,521 safety belt and 194 child passenger safety violations, 5,931 speeding violations and 331 drug charges. In addition, they apprehended 115 fugitives from justice and recovered 39 stolen vehicles.

For county-by-county citation totals, visit the GHSP Web site at: www.ncdot.org/secretary/ghsp.

###